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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Bureau of Water Pollution Control
288 North 1460 West, P.O. Box 16690
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-0690
(801) 538-6146

M/03, 001

RECEIVED
MAY 16 1988

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

May 6, 1988

Mr. R. S. Pattison, Manager
Rio Algom Mining Corp.
LaSal Route
Moab, Utah 84532

Re: UPDES Permit Continuance
UT0000311

Dear Mr. Pattison:

We have reviewed your April 20, 1988 letter regarding your intent to continue the discharge identified by the above referenced UPDES permit. We are concerned that this is the fifth request for an extension of the permit since the original permit expiration date of June 30, 1986. In our enclosed July 21, 1986 letter we requested that the company provide surface and ground water information if the discharge continued past December 1, 1986. To date we have not received any of that information. We are still concerned about the salinity impact of this discharge.

Therefore, if Rio Algom intends to continue operating past July 1, 1988, we request that the company begin in May a monthly stream flow and total dissolved solids sampling program of East Coyote Wash to ascertain the salinity impacts. Sampling should include monitoring sites located just upstream of where the Rio Algom discharge enters the Wash and downstream in the Wash after complete mixing with the Rio Algom discharge. The past monitoring program also included sampling sites at the Maple Leaf claims and at a point 5 1/2 miles downstream of these claims. We request that this information along with the updated salinity information, estimated water impacts and proposed continued study plan mentioned in our July 21, 1986 letter (attached), be submitted in writing to this office by June 28, 1988.

MR. R. S. Fattison
Page Two

Upon submittal of the additional information as requested herein, a further evaluation will be made as to the appropriateness of any further extension of this permit, terminating the permit, or reissuancing a new permit.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated. You may contact this office at 538-6146 if you desire to discuss the requests in this letter.

Sincerely,

UTAH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE



Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Executive Secretary

SRM:pfa/st

Enclosure

cc: Fred Nelson, Assistant Attorney General
EPA/Denver - Water Management
Southeastern Utah District Health Dept.
Oil, Gas and Mining

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